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Date: November 3, 2003

Docket No.: 4450-0409P

**MS PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Request for filing a ☐ continuation ☒ divisional  
☐ continuation-in-part application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) of  
pending prior Application No. 09/916,980 filed on July 27, 2001,  
the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by  
reference,  
by

Charles Matthew Erwin

for

OPTICAL FIBER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD AND FIBER BENDER  
THEREOF

1. ☒ Enclosed is an application consisting of specification,  
claims and drawings/photographs (if applicable).

2. ☒ The filing fee has been calculated as follows:

|   |                 |                 | LARGE ENTITY  | SMALL ENTITY  |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| BASIC FEE   |                 |                 | \$770.00      | \$385.00      |
|   | NUMBER<br>FILED | NUMBER<br>EXTRA | RATE FEE      | RATE FEE      |
| TOTAL<br>CLAIMS   | 15-20 =         | 0               | x 18 = \$0.00 | x 9 = \$0.00  |
| INDEPENDENT<br>CLAIMS   | 3-3 =           | 0               | x 18 = \$0.00 | x 43 = \$0.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT<br>CLAIMS PRESENTED |                 |                 | + \$290.00    | + \$145.00    |
| TOTAL   |                 |                 | \$770.00      | \$0.00        |

3. ☒ A check in the amount of \$770.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.
4. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this request is enclosed.
5. ☒ Enclosed is/are six (6) sheet(s) of formal drawings and/or photographs.
- 6a. ☐ A statement claiming small entity status was filed in prior Application No. 09/916,980 on \_\_\_\_\_. See the attached copy of the statement claiming small entity status.
- 6b. ☐ The current application qualifies for small entity status.
7. ☐ The prior application is assigned to\_\_\_\_\_.
8. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
- 9a. ☐ Priority of Application No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ filed in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See attached copy of the Letter claiming priority filed in the prior application on \_\_\_\_\_.

- 9b. ☐ Priority of International Appln. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and \_\_\_\_\_  
Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ under 35  
U.S.C. § 120 and/or § 119 are hereby reclaimed.
10. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449  
form(s) are attached hereto for the Examiner's  
consideration.
11. ☒ Address all future communications to:  
  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000  
  
or  
Customer No. 02292
12. ☐ An extension of time for \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) month(s) until \_\_\_\_\_  
has been submitted in parent Application No. 09/916,980  
in order to establish co-pendency with the present  
application.
13. ☐ Also enclosed herewith is the following:

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this,  
concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any  
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional  
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17;  
particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

MRC/CJB:cb  
4450-0409P

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Attachment(s)

(Rev. 10/30/03)